# GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
# HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE
# LOK SABHA

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:2972
ANSWERED ON:13.08.2003
HEALTH SERVICE TO TRIBALS
LAXMAN GILUWA

**Will the Minister of HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE be pleased to state:**

(a) the details of the action plan formulated by the Government in addition to the present Health policy to provide better health services to the tribals in the country;

(b) whether any specific scheme has been formulated to check the incidents of death of tribals due to malaria and jaundice besides infant mortality and deaths during deliveries;

(c) if so, the details of modern medical facilities being provided to them; and

(d) the details of steps proposed to be taken by the Government to provide better health service to the tribals?

## Answer

MINISTER OF HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE AND PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS (SMT. SUSHMA SWARAJ)

(a) to (d): Various national health programmes are being implemented all over the country to provide preventive, curative and rehabilitative services to ensure a basic minimum standard of life for all sections of people living in remote, tribal and backward areas. The National Health Policy-2002 has emphasised that the State Governments would have the flexibility to carve out separate schemes which are tailor made to the health needs of the tribals, keeping in view the macro policy prescriptions.

An Enhanced Malaria Control Project with World Bank assitance is in operation in 100 hardcore tribal districts of Andhra Pradesh, Chhatisgarh, Gujarat, Jharkhand, Maharasahtra, Madhya Pradesh, Orissa and Rajasthan.

To develop and strengthen surveillance activities to promote early detection of outbreaks of communicable diseases including Viral Hepatitis (jaundice), National Surveillance Programme for Communicable Diseases (NSPCD) has been implemented in a phased manner since 1997 in the country. Currently, it is in operation in 101 districts, which includes tribal population as well.

Department of Family Welfare has already initiated various steps to bring down the infant mortality and death during deliveries. The most recent initiative is Reproductive and Child Health (RCH) Programme launched in 1997 in all States/UTsMajor initiatives being taken include enhancing availability of basic health care services, essential obstetric care, emergency obstetric care, 24 hour delivery services, referral transport for pregnant women, MTP facilities, Dai Training and RCH camps, immunization against six vaccine preventable diseases, facilities for appropriate management of acute respiratory infections, Oral Rehydration Therapy (ORT) for management of diarrhoeal diseases and essential newborn care services. Promotion of exclusive breastfeeding and appropriate complementary feeding practices, and prophylaxis against Vitamin-A and iron deficiencies are also provided to improve the nutritional status of children. It includes all the components of child survival and safe motherhood.